

RETURN TO ADDRESS.

CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND MR. T. C. DUPONT, OR ANY
OTHER PARTIES, WITH REFERENCE TO HIS INSPECTION

OF THE

CUSTOMS STATIONS

BETWEEN

VICTORIA AND KOOTENAY

IN

1876;

WITH HIS INSTRUCTIONS AND REPORT.

Printed by Order of Parliament.



OTTAWA:

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1877.

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To an ADDRESS of the HOUSE OF COMMONS, dated 12th March, 1877;—For copies of all correspondence between the Government and Mr. T. C. Dupont, or any other parties, with reference to his inspection of the several Customs Stations between Victoria and Kootenay in 1876; also, copy of instructions to Mr. Dupont, as well as his report on his return.

By command.

R. W. SCOTT,

Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

OTTAWA, 28th March, 1877.

5th November, 1875.

SIR,—I am instructed by the Minister of Customs to enclose to you the files of this Department, Nos. 3351, 1874, and 465 and 2264, 1875, and to request you to proceed to Kootenay as soon as possible, and make an investigation into the business of that out-port.

You will endeavour to ascertain the general correctness or otherwise of Mr. Sub-Collector Seelye's accounts, and specially as to the justice of his claims for contingent expenses which have not yet been allowed him, details of which you will find in Files Nos. 3351, 1874; and 465, 1875.

You will also report upon his application for leave of absence, giving particulars of the state of his bodily health; and, in connection therewith, your views as to the necessities and means of supplying his place during his absence, with any particulars which your own judgment will suggest as being important in the interests of the revenue at that locality.

I have obtained the sanction of Mr. Commissioner Brunel to your undertaking this mission.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

(Signed)

J. JOHNSON,

Commissioner of Customs.

C. T. DUPONT, Esq.,
Inspector of Inland Revenue,
Victoria, B.C.

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OTTAWA, 1st February, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 4th Dec., explaining the difficulties, &c., in the way of your visiting Kootenay, and requesting an advance of \$600 on account of travelling expenses.

I am now instructed by the Minister of Customs to enclose to you the desired cheque, and to request you to make the trip subservient, as far as possible, to the business of both Departments, visiting any Customs or Excise Stations that you can take on your route, and making a full inspection of the business transacted at each. You will, please, in rendering your account for expenses, keep in view the relative proportion which should be borne by each Department, as Mr. Commissioner Brunel has consented to the division of such expenses according to the service performed.

I am also to inclose file 255, 1876, being a renewal of the claim of the officer at Osoyoos Lake for repairs of house occupied by him. You will please report upon the necessity of the case, and also upon the reasonableness or otherwise of the items of the account, with such information respecting the out-post as you may judge useful to this Department.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. JOHNSON.

C. T. DUPONT, Esq.,
Inspector of Inland Revenue,
Victoria, B.C.

VICTORIA, B.C., 3rd March, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your communication, No. 1, of the first ultimo, containing file 253, 1876 and Departmental cheque for six hundred dollars, being an advance on account of travelling expenses.

I propose to leave this place about the 20th of April, which will be as early as the condition of the country will admit of travelling, except under great difficulties, and which will enable me to reach Kootenay by or before the season opens for the conveyance of goods or stock from across the boundary into British Columbia. On my route I shall pass through New Westminster and can take in Burrard Inlet and, in accordance with your instructions, "to visit any Customs Station that I can take on my route and make a full inspection of the business transacted at each" I shall inspect at these places.

I would respectfully request that the Collector of Customs at this port, Mr. Hawley, be certified of any instructions to do this duty and requested to give me such information and assistance as I may require.

From reliable information I have received, I believe Mr. Sub-Collector Seelye's state of health to be such as to render him quite incapable of discharging his duties, and that it will be imperative that a temporary appointment of some person be immediately made for the protection of the revenue, pending a permanent appointment being made. I am also led to believe that, to be of any avail in restoring his health or even saving his life, Mr. Seelye should come out to where he can obtain medical assistance the moment travelling is possible.

So long a time must elapse before my report can reach you and be acted upon, that I would respectfully suggest that authority be given me to act both in respect to Mr. Seelye's leave of absence, and the temporary appointment of some person to fill his position, as the emergency of the case may require.

There should be just about time for a reply to this letter to reach me before my departure, your letter, now acknowledged, having been an exceptional time on the way in consequence of snow blockades on the railroad.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. T. DUPONT,
Inspector of Inland Revenue.

To J. JOHNSON, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs,
Ottawa.

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OTTAWA, 31st March 1876.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 3rd inst. I beg leave to inform you that you are authorized to allow Mr. Seelye leave of absence for the purpose of looking after his health, and to place Mr. Wm. Fernie, of Wild Horse Creek, in charge during that officer's absence.

Mr. Fernie is constable at Kootenay, but it is represented that he can attend to the Customs work.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. JOHNSON.

C. T. DUPONT, Esq.,
Victoria, B. C., Canada.

VICTORIA, B. C., 8th July, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that, in accordance with instructions contained in your letters No. 1 of the 5th Nov., 1875, and No. 1 of the 1st Feb. 1876, I left this city on the 28th April last for Kootenay to "make a full inspection of the Customs business transacted at that place and all the stations that I could take on my way to it." The reasons which prevented any earlier compliance with your instructions have been given in my communications of December 1st, 1875, or March 3rd, 1876. I returned to this city on the 28th ultimo, having occupied two months in making the trip, and since my return I have visited New Westminster a second time to complete my inspection of that out-port.

The outports and stations that I have visited are New Westminster, Burrard Inlet, Osoyoos Lake and Kootenay, these being all, with the exception of Fort Shepherd, that I was enabled to take on the way to Kootenay. The reason for my not being able to visit Fort Shepherd is given on page No. 16 of this Report.

As you have already been made aware by Mr. Collector Hambly, Mr. Sub-Collector Seelye died at the Custom House, Kootenay on the 28th March last. The files enclosed in your letter of the 5th Nov. relating to certain expenses incurred by the late Mr. Seelye I return in a separate special report.

I reached Kootenay on Saturday the 27th of May and found Mrs. Seelye in charge of the office. Prior to the decease of her husband she had discharged the duties of the office. (The late Mr. Seelye having been both mentally and physically so great a sufferer as to render him incapable of doing any work) and up to the date of my visit she had continued to attend to Customs matters. I have occasion further on to remark upon certain irregularities permitted at this out-port—permitted before the late Mr. Seelye was appointed, and from inexperience on his part and want of instructions allowed by him to continue. I therefore feel that I should also state that Mrs. Seelye has been most conscientious in discharging her duties, and attended to them with zeal under afflictions and circumstances of the most trying character. She is particularly qualified and competent (with instructions) to fill satisfactorily such positions as may be open in the Civil Service to her sex.

On my arrival at Kootenay, I sent for Mr. W. Fernie, whose place of residence (Wild Horse Creek) was fifteen miles from the Custom House, and on the 1st June placed him temporarily in charge of the business of this out-port, in accordance with authority contained in your letter, No. 2, of the 31st March last. I would respectfully report that the duties of constable (the office held by Mr. Fernie under the local Government) are incompatible with those of the sub-collector of Customs. The constable is required to live at the mining camp of Wild Horse Creek, fifteen miles from the Custom House at St. Joseph's Prairie; and although by building a new

Custom House at Wild Horse Creek, this difficulty could be overcome, the more serious one, namely, that the constable has to execute warrants and summonses in an extensive district, and may frequently be away for days at a time, would interfere seriously with his attention to Customs business. If, however, even this objection could be provided for, the Provincial Government seem to be opposed to such a combination of offices, for on the rumour that Mr. Firnie had been appointed, and before it was possible for any communication on the subject to have reached the proper authority, Mr. Firnie's successor as constable was appointed and dispatched to assume the duties of that position. Mr. Firnie has, therefore, ceased to hold any office under the Provincial Government. He appears to me to be a competent and suitable person for the position of sub-Collector at Kootenay. As the non-keeping of proper books, insufficiency of information in those kept, method of taking entries, and balance of any document, or copy of entry by which the books could be checked, was a feature common to each of the stations I visited, I will report generally upon these irregularities farther on, and, to avoid repetition in dealing separately with an out-port, refer only to those matters which are special to it.

At Kootenay I found that pack trains, with goods, were permitted to pass on into the country, and the goods to be distributed to the importers, and allowed to go into consumption without payment of duty, or without a bond of any description being taken. The packer simply reported at the Custom House, and the owners of the goods made entries and paid duties when placed in sufficient funds from the sale of the goods.

Mrs. Seelye and others informed me that this was the practice before the late Mr. Seelye took charge at this out-port, and when duties were collected by the Colonial Government, and Mrs. Seelye stated that it had the sanction of Collector Hamley, as on Mr. Seelye attempting at one time to collect duty in advance of delivery of goods, a trader named Montgomery, at Pevo Creek, wrote a formal complaint to Collector Hamley, who, in writing, replied to him to the effect that he had given Mr. Seelye no instructions to discontinue the old credit system and to enforce prepayment of duty (which as a matter of fact Mrs. Seelye says he never had) and that consequently, and for want of the moral support of his superior officer, he, Seelye, had been unable to collect duties at the proper time. One consequence of this system was that goods were scattered about the country or consumed without previous comparison with invoice or appraisement, and from what I observed I think it almost certain that false entries were frequently made. Neither the original nor copies of invoices were left at the Custom House, and of course no invoices were ever forwarded with entry to the Collector at Victoria, who indeed must have taken the correctness of all returns and entries sent him from all the out-ports for granted, as in no case have invoices, or any date by which entries from out-ports could be checked, been forwarded. I specially instructed Mr. Firnie that the practice of giving credit for duty must cease—that whether "ex warehouse" or ex pack train, duties must be paid before goods were allowed to pass out of his custody.

That he must obtain original invoices and check goods by them, using his best judgment (in his isolated position, it being impossible to obtain the assistance of appraisers) in determining whether correct values were given, and that he must forward the original invoices, with duplicate entries, to the Collector at Victoria, and file a third copy at his station.

At Kootenay goods have been considered as bonded without any entry for warehouse having been taken, or without any crown lock upon door of warehouse. The key of the only lock on door being kept by the owner of the goods and warehouse. Simply because certain warehouses had been accepted and used as bonded warehouses anterior to this Province having entered Confederation, it was considered that goods were bonded if placed in them, and that the duty was secured by virtue of general bonds given years ago, some of the parties to which have become insolvent or left the country. From time to time the owner of the goods made "Ex Warehouse Entries" for duty, one copy of which was forwarded to the Collector of Victoria, who does not seem to have required that a "for warehouse" entry should have been

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taken. In the absence of any invoice or "for warehouse" entry, by which means these warehouse transactions were checked I am at a loss to conceive. There being no warehouse book, nor invoice, nor copy of entry "for" or "Ex Warehouse" at the Custom House at Kootenay, I could not check in any way these matters. At the time of my visit a trader named Eliza F. Hicks, owning one of these warehouses, sent over to the Custom House and made an ex warehouse entry and paid duty which was said to clear the warehouse, and which Mrs. Seelye said was correct, as she knew from an informal book she had kept. I visited Wild Horse Creek and examined the warehouse, but, as I expected, found the goods already removed. I gave Mr. Fernie full instructions in reference to warehousing goods, which will, I trust, prevent a recurrence of the irregularities that have prevailed.

Gold mining is the only industry that is carried on in the Kootenay District. There may be said to be no farming or stock raising. The settlements are the mining camps at Wild Horse and Perry Creeks. There are besides a few scattered adventurers prospecting for gold, or traders doing business chiefly with the Indians. Apart from the Indians the population is exclusively adult, and with the exception of five women (wives of settlers) male. In all there are not in the district over 60 white persons, 100 Chinese, and about 350 Indians. The district is the most isolated of any in British Columbia, separated from the more settled portions of the Province by ranges of mountains and deep rapid unbridged streams, and hemmed in on the east by the Rocky Mountains, on whose western slope is situated the chief mining camp of Wild Horse Creek. The only outlet is to the south, in which direction there is easy access to Montana, and a trail comparatively easy to travel, although rocky and through brush and timber for about 175 miles leading to Washington Territory, when a country so open and level is reached that for hundreds of miles waggons can be drawn over natural roads. As a consequence the entire trade of Kootenay in flour and provisions, as well as every other description of goods, is with the United States, nothing whatever being imported from other portions of this Province. The amount of gold produced at Kootenay is in the neighbourhood of \$200,000 per annum, and competent judges among the miners are of opinion that gold exists so generally in its creeks and rivers as to insure the permanency of Kootenay as a mining district. The Customs revenue is not likely, however (unless some great discovery of gold should be made), to increase or exceed the cost of its collection. An excitement may at any moment be created by new discoveries, which would cause a rush of miners to this district.

In a separate letter I have the power to comply with your instructions and to report upon the claims for repairs of house of the office at Osoyoos Lake, Mr. J. C. Haynes.

Mr. Haynes has not executed any bonds to the Department, although forms have been sent him. Justified him that this must be done. He has not taken any oath of office nor do I believe have any of the Customs officers of this Province. At Osoyoos the only book, or record of any description to be found in the Custom House is an informal cash book, in which the name of parties paying duties and the amount of duty paid is entered, without particulars as to quantities or values of goods, or any reference to any entry or invoice by which the correctness of the entry in book could be checked. I found nothing whatever by which I could determine whether the duties had been properly collected and accounted for. As from Kootenay a single copy of entry forwarded to the Collector at Victoria, and no copy of entry has been filed at the outposts. The importations at Osoyoos are chiefly cattle; as a rule an invoice is produced, but Mr. Haynes (who is himself an extensive stock raiser) values them.

Fort Shepherd on the Columbia River is an out-station of Osoyoos, Mr. Wm. Moore acting as officer there; he receives \$30 per month. Mr. Moore reports and sends his returns to Mr. Sub-Collector Haynes. As the Columbia River is navigable from Colville in Washington territory, to a point some distance beyond the boundary of British Columbia, I consider an officer being stationed at Fort Shepherd as desirable. This spring the steamer *Forty-Wives* has ascended the river with a large party of

Chinamen for the purpose of prospecting for gold. If these men are successful in their search they will remain in the country and increase the importations, entries of which would be made at Fort Shepherd. I was unable to visit the station at Fort Shepherd except by ascending the Columbia River from Fort Colville, where the trail which I was obliged to take to reach Kootenay, strikes that river. This would have occupied so much time that I deemed it better to pass it by.

At Osoyoos and Kootenay goods are brought into the country on pack mules and horses. The officers at both these outposts have been collecting duty upon the animals used for this purpose, although they are returned again to the United States immediately after deposit of the goods at place of destination. The effect of this has been that, as the packer has added in his charge for freight the duty he has had to pay on his animals, the miner has had, in addition to the duty upon his goods, to pay duty upon the animals by which he has had them conveyed to him. As (especially at Kootenay) it is impossible to sell a single pack train, the packer has of necessity to take his animals back to the United States, and having had to enter them for duty in this Province is liable to have them treated as an importation from Canada and as subject to the United States duty, to be again on his next trip into British Columbia, called upon to pay duty on the same train as a fresh importation. Circular 165 of October 12th, 1875, appears to clearly except this class of animals, and in instructing the officers at Osoyoos and Kootenay to collect duty upon them I infer that Collector Hamley misconstrued it. I so instructed the officers, and beg to have special instructions if I am in error, as duty will now cease to be collected on these animals.

Claims for a refund of duty paid may possibly be made. In equity the packer will have no claim, as he has collected the duty and even made a profit upon it, in the increased freight collected from the trader and eventually from the consumer of the goods.

Even the out-port of New Westminster has not been furnished with any official form of books, and Mr. Sub-Collector Lowe states that he has never received any instructions as to what books should be kept. On his taking charge of this out-port (1st July, 1874) he found, he says, no warehouse books, nor any "for warehouse," or other entries on file, or record of any description by which he could determine what amount of goods should there have been in bond. He had stock taken, and the number of packages found in warehouse, without any information as to qualities or values, or date when warehoused, or reference to entry under which they had been warehoused, I found entered in an unfinished book. Whether the warehouses were then correct, as for how long the goods at that time in them had been in bond, Mr. Lowe was unable to state. On proceeding to take stock at the warehouses, I found a quality of goods that were in warehouse when Mr. Lowe took charge, two years since, still in bond. I called his attention to Section No. 55 of the Customs Act, and directed him to write to Mr. Hamley and ascertain whether an "ex-warehouse" entry for the goods actually in warehouse would balance the entries "for warehouse," made when these goods were bonded, and instructed him to require the owners to pay duty on all that had been two years in bond.

I found, by comparison with the book kept in lieu of the warehouse book, the following packages of goods short by actual stock taking:—

In Mr. Holbrook's warehouse, four cases ale (three dozen each) and six cases of brandy.

In Mr. Brown's warehouse, three chests of tea, three cases old tom gin, six cases brandy. No explanation could be offered as to how or when these goods had been removed from the warehouse without any entry having been made; but it is, no doubt, due to the latitude allowed (not alone at New Westminster) to merchants. The owners expressed their readiness to make entries and pay duty.

At the time of my visit, a Mr. Fisher was in default for duties on goods obtained "ex warehouse" by him nearly two months previously. Having in the meantime become insolvent, he could not pay the amount (although small, of \$187.66) and Mr. Sub-Collector Lowe stated that he would himself pay the amount without any further

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delay. Mr. Lowe forwards the duties collected at New Westminster to Mr. Collector Hamley, weekly, but does not send any copy of entry or return until the end of each month; when he does send entry, he does not forward with it the invoice, and as a rule, the affirmation or oath, if signed at all (on back entry), is signed in blank even as to date. There is a mail twice a week from New Westminster to Victoria, and I would respectfully recommend that all entries received, accompanied by invoice, as well as duties collected, should be forwarded by each mail. I could not, from the absence of information in books, the non-filing at Westminster of a copy of any entry paper, check the correctness of transactions at this out-port.

I visited the station at Burrard's Inlet, which by Order in Council of 1st May, 1874, is made a portion of the out-port of New Westminster. Mr. Collector Hamley has, however, removed it from being under Mr. Sub-Collector Lowe's survey and instructed Mr. Landing Waiter Clarkson to report direct to him at Victoria.

Burrard's Inlet is only 9 miles from New Westminster, and there is a daily stage and mail between the two places. I would respectfully report that a more efficient survey of the station at Burrard's Inlet could be had by its remaining apart of, and making returns through the out-port of New Westminster, then by its being constituted a separate out-port.

There are at Burrard's Inlet two extensive lumbering establishments, and a number of vessels are annually entered there. There is at present no office for the Customs, and much inconvenience is caused by parties having to seek the officer at his house. I would respectfully recommend that he be authorized to rent an office. A suitable one could be obtained for a rental of from \$5 to \$7.50 per month.

The remarks made as to informality of books kept and absence of information, or entries on file, in respect to the places I have already mentioned, apply also to Burrard Inlet. Before starting on my tour of inspection I addressed a letter to Mr. Collector Hamley, of which I enclose a copy. To it, as to other communications I have made him, I received no reply whatever, and was therefore unaided by any suggestion or information from him. I have to suppose that he is satisfied with the form and manner in which Customs business is transacted. To me it appears that there is no check whatever upon the officer, but that the sole dependence is upon his honour. Entries "for duty" are taken only in duplicate, generally in hand writing of officer and without oath or affirmation of owner. No entry of particulars is made in any book at out-port. One copy of entry accompanied by invoice is forwarded to the Collector at Victoria, and the other copy is retained and carried away by the importer. Nothing is filed at the out-port and there is nothing by which an inspecting officer can check the correctness of the business done. How any check is exercised by the Collector at Victoria I cannot perceive. Nothing would be easier than for an officer to withhold altogether forwarding certain entries and to retain the duty, or to substitute an entry for the one taken, changing the date by which for long periods he might retain the duty. I have no suspicion that anything of the kind has been done, and I have great confidence in the officer of the Department, notwithstanding, I feel it my duty to remark upon the want of system evident.

In respect to the method of taking entries and dealing with warehouses, the out-ports have only done what is permitted at the chief port of Victoria, at which place two copies of entry are taken, one of which is returned to the party making it, signed for the Collector, instead of a delivery order, and which, instead of being given to the landing waiter or locker, is retained.

Without further authority, in the absence of a locker or any officer, goods have been taken and delivered, ex-warehouse, by the warehousemen, the entry paper signed by the Collector not being retained by the warehouseman, or ever seen by the locker.

It follows, as a matter of course, that owners of warehouses have access to them in the absence of any officer. So far as the officers at the out-ports are concerned, they appear to have fulfilled the requirements of Collector Hamley. To have attempted to have established more system, would, in the absence of any authority to do so, have in me been useless, and have led to a conflict of authority with Mr. Hamley.

I could only point out the irregularities to the officer, and urge strict compliance with Departmental regulations.

Your instructions being to make a full inspection of the business transacted at each station, and mine being the first Customs inspection since Confederation, I have entered somewhat minutely into particulars for your information.

I have the honour to forward herewith a map of this Province, showing the position of the different Custom Stations, and the trails by which goods are brought in from adjacent portions of the United States. The trail dotted red across the Shepherd Mountains ceased to be travelled, as, in consequence of the height of Shepherd Mountain, the snow lies so deep and for so long a period of the year that only for a very short season could it be used; and such a quantity of timber falls across the track during the time it cannot be used, involving such labour in cutting it out that the more frequently travelled, although longer route through Washington Territory and a portion of Idaho, is preferred.

In consequence of the deep snow on the Hope Mountain at the season of my trip, I was obliged to proceed *vid* Yale per waggon road (marked yellow) to Kamloops, from whence I made the journey over trail marked red *vid* Colville and Spokane on horseback, encountering the greatest freshets and highest waters that has been known by white settlers on this coast, greatly increasing the distance by the necessity for frequent detours. I returned to Victoria by way of the Columbia River and Puget Sound, that route being the one by which I could most expeditiously get back. In all I travelled—by steamer and railway, 800 miles; by stage, 475 miles; on horseback, 1,022 miles.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. T. DUPONT,
Acting Inspector of Customs.

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs, Ottawa.

INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
INLAND REVENUE, DISTRICT B.C.,
VICTORIA, 21st April, 1876.

Sir,—I am instructed by the Commissioner of Customs to make a full inspection of the business of that branch of the public service at each of the out-ports and stations that I can take on my way to Kootenay.

I propose to start from here in the discharge of this duty next Friday (the 28th instant), and I beg to ask whether there are any matters to which you desire to call my attention, affecting the interests of the revenue, at any place I can take on my route.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. T. DUPONT.

W. HAMLEY, Esq.,
Collector of Customs, Victoria, B.C.

OTTAWA, August, 31st, 1876.

Mr. Dupont authorised by letters from this Department, of 5th November, 1875, and 1st July, 1876, to proceed and make a full inspection of the Customs, at the out-port of Kootenay and intermediate stations between Victoria and that place. From various causes, however, he did not start on the mission until the 28th April, following; and he returned to Victoria on the 28th June, thus occupying a period of two months in the excursion.

The bill now rendered for travelling expenses by Mr. Dupont, amounts to a total of \$1,321.36. This large bill embraces the expenses of a guide and two men to assist, with a considerable amount expended in the purchase of a horse and camp equipage.

In Mr. Dupont's letter accompanying his account, he enters very fully into explanation of the various items of expenditure, and if all the appliances which he saw fit to call into requisition were absolutely essential to the journey, the undersigned thinks there will be nothing extravagant in the charges made.

The question is, however, whether such elaborate preparations and accompaniments were necessary for his purpose; this is doubtful, as he says himself that by choosing a proper season of the year, the same services could be performed for about the sum of \$600, travelling expenses. The necessity, therefore, for more than one half the expenditure comprised in the account, seems to have arisen from his having started on the mission at an unfavourable time of the year. The necessities of the case, however, were urgent.—Mr. Seelye, the collector at Kootenay, was disabled by sickness, and actually died before the arrival of Mr. Dupont; there were a number of important accounts unsettled in connection with the Customs there; and many questions which required the presence of a competent Inspector at the different stations, in order that a proper explanation could be given to this department, enabling it to understand the situation.

The camp outfit proposed by Mr. Dupont appears to have cost nearly \$200, and the horse \$125, and Mr. Dupont reports that this outfit is on hand in good order, and ready for future occasions, the horse being placed out at pasture for the purpose of recovery after the effects of the journey, preparatory to being sold.

The undersigned, in view of all the facts and circumstances respectfully recommends that Mr. Dupont's account be allowed. He having received an advance of \$600, there remains due to him the sum of \$721.36. But, in any future engagement, temporary or permanent, for services of this kind in British Columbia, he thinks that the system of an adequate per diem allowance on the same principle as that in which inspectors in other provinces are paid for travelling expenses, would be a more judicious and economical arrangement than leaving the description of expenses to be incurred to the discretion of the gentlemen employed.

Humbly submitted.

(Signed) J. JOHNSON.

To the Minister of Customs.

INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
INLAND REVENUE DISTRICT OF B. C.
VICTORIA, 4th December, 1875.

SIR,—I have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your communication No. 1 of the 5th ultimo, enclosing files Nos. 3351 of 1874 and 465 and 2264 of 1875 of the Customs' Department, and instructing me to proceed to Kootenay and make an investigation into the business of that out-port.

I have delayed a few days acknowledging the receipt of your letter for the purpose of obtaining accurate information as to the possibility of immediately proceeding on my mission, the winter season having already set in with unusual severity. I

find by the nearest route (*via Hope* on the Fraser River) the distance going and coming would be 1,640 miles, of which about 1,200 miles would have to be done on snow-shoes over mountains 4,000 and 5,000 feet in height, from 200 to 300 miles intervening in places between any houses or stopping places.

Via Portland, Oregon and the Columbia River, the distance, though considerably greater, would be easier of accomplishment, as there are stage routes to within about 250 miles of Kootenay, reducing the distance to be walked going and coming to 500 miles.

I propose, therefore, to go by this route as soon as the weather sufficiently settles to make it possible, the expense in the end not being greater than *via Hope*, and the time occupied considerably less.

At the shortest the journey will occupy nearly two months, and the most economical estimate of the outlay involved is \$600, for which amount I would request that a check to be accounted for may be sent over, as I have not that amount of contingent funds in my possession.

The journey in summer would be not much less expensive, guides being then equally necessary, and horses for packing, instead of men, as would be requisite now.

On enquiry I find that the winter season puts an embargo on traffic across the southern boundary, and that the interest of the revenue will not be prejudiced by a short delay in my proceeding thither, nor could Mr. Sub-Collector Seelye, however essential to his health, take advantage of my leave before summer, the dangers and difficulties of the journey being too great for an invalid to surmount.

I believe, from information I have obtained, that it is highly desirable, however, that an inspection should be made at the earliest possible moment.

At Osoyoos Lake, on the route to Kootenay, there is a Customs Officer, Sub-Collector Haynes, and if any inspection is desired at that out-port it could be made at the same time, and so avoid the very heavy expense which a separate visit, it required, would entail.

I beg very respectfully to say in this connection, that if generally authorized to make inspections of Customs out-ports, I could do so at much less expense, by taking the opportunity of doing so when brought in their neighbourhood in my inspection tours for my own Department, or, as in the present instance is suggested in the case of Osoyoos Lake, by inspecting all out-ports on the same route at one time.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,

Your obedient servant,

Commissioner of Customs,
Ottawa.

(Signed) C. J. DUPONT,
Inspector, Inland Revenue.

MEMORANDUM.

Mr. JOHNSON.—These charges from Mr. Seelye are so unreasonable that I cannot pass them without authority, more especially since the receipt of circular No. 136. When the vouchers reached me I made enquiry of the expressman respecting the cost of keeping a horse at Kootenay, he told me he paid for ranching one of his own \$1 a month, for the whole winter he paid \$5. From December to June it cost him \$7.50, and the horse was in good condition; for bringing the horse in each time \$1. When he hired a horse he paid \$2.50 for two days.

For ferrriage and horse-shoeing I told him to send a separate voucher and those charges will be paid.

(Signed) W. HAMLEY.

C. H.

Victoria, 22nd October, 1874.

Date.

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GOVERNMENT OF DOMINION OF CANADA.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

JOHN T. GALBRAITH & BRO.,—Cr.

Date.	Items in Detail.	Rate of each Article.	\$ cts.
1874.			
March 16	$\frac{1}{2}$ ton hay	\$50 p. ton	25 00
do 16	Ferriage, from September, 1873, to July 1st, 1874.....		21 ⁰⁰
do 16	Ranching and delivering Government horse, from September, 1873, to July 1st, 1874..		30 00
do 16	Horse shoeing.....		12 00
do 16	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons hay.....	\$50 p. ton	125 00
do 16	$\frac{1}{2}$ ton sheaf oats.....	100 "	50 00
	Total		\$263 00

Certified correct.

(Signed) H. E. SEELYE,

Received from H. E. Seelye the above sum of two hundred and sixty-three dollars.

(Signed) JNO. T. GALBRAITH & BRO.
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GOVERNMENT OF DOMINION OF CANADA.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,

KOOTENAY, July 26th, 1874.

J. T. GALBRAITH & BRO.,—Cr.

Date.	Items in Detail.	Rate of each Article.	\$ cts.
1874.			
March, 1874.	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton hay		25 00
Sept., '73, to July, 1874.	Ferriage, from September, 1873, to July 1st, 1874.....		21 00
Oct., 1873	Ranching Government horse one month		3 00
May and June, 1874	do do two months		6 00
May	1 Shoeing		12 00
July	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of hay		100 00
do	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton sheaf oats.....		50 00
	The amount of this claim reduced by two tons hay taken back Messrs. Galbraith & Bros., at \$50 per ton.....		217 00 100 00
	Amount due Messrs. J. T. Galbraith & Bros.....		117 00

Certified correct.

(Signed) H. E. SEELYE.

Received from W. Hamley the above sum of two hundred and seventeen dollars.

(Signed) JNO. T. GALBRAITH & Bro.

KOOTENAY, August 22nd, 1874.

SIR,—I regret to say that Mr. Galbraith's voucher that went down by the July mail was wrong, he having made a mistake in his bill for ranching by charging for my own horse as well as for the Government horse, and misunderstood me about the quantity of hay.

I was ill at the time and did not discover the mistake till after the mail left, when I pointed it out to him and made a correct voucher for \$217, which I now send for approval, this being the first opportunity of sending out a letter since the mail left.

Please pay the amount of the voucher to W. C. Ward, Bank B.C.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. SEELYE.

W. HAMLEY, Esq.,
Collector of Customs.

GOVERNMENT OF DOMINION OF CANADA.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,

THOMAS KELLY,—Cr.

Date.	Items in Detail.	Rate of each Article.	\$ cts.
March and April, 1874	Tending Government horse two months		20 00

Certified correct.

(Signed) H. E. SEELYE.

Received from William Hamley,
Dollars.

the above sum of

(Signed) THOMAS KELLY.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,

OTTAWA, 12th November, 1874.

SIR,—In acknowledging your letter of 22nd ultimo, with an account of Mr. Officer Seelye, of Kootenay, for expense of keeping Government horses, &c., I am to request you to institute further enquiry as to the usual prices of hay and oats in that locality, and also to what extent it is necessary to feed horses in that way. The prices named \$50.00 per ton of hay, and sheaf oats appear to be excessive, under almost any circumstances, but from the statements of the expressman as mentioned by you, the whole bill appears to be of a most extraordinary character, and certainly the Department cannot sanction its payment without further information.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. JOHNSON.

Hon. W. HAMLEY,

Collector of Customs,

Victoria, B.C.

KOOTENAY, 24th November, 1874.

SIR,—I beg leave to call your attention to a letter I wrote you some four months since, respecting Mr. Hamley's refusal to allow me the expenses of my office.

If you would refer to that letter and have the kindness to instruct Mr. Hamley to allow my claims you would confer upon me a great favour.

Mr. Hamley referred a voucher for horse keeping to Ottawa, saying it was too large. The reason of its being larger this year than last is this, there was not enough hay last year, and I had to get half a ton in the spring. Mr. Galbraith put that half ton in this year's voucher, and the horse will need as much this year as last.

The voucher was paid last year and no notice given me of any intention not to keep a horse until I had provided for it this year.

Hay and oats are very high, but I cannot get any cheaper.

It would be much less expense to the Department to hire a horse than to keep one.

Mr. Hamley, this mail, points out a discrepancy in my account of May, 1873, of which I was not aware. I may have made a mistake in a landing warrant given to Mr. Montgomery and may have corrected it before sending a duplicate to Mr. Hamley, but I have no recollection of it now.

If it can be shown that I have made a mistake I am willing to rectify it.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. SEELYE.

The Hon. the Minister of Customs,
Ottawa.

KOOTENAY, B. C., 27th November, 1874.

SIR,—You will perhaps excuse me for troubling you with my complaints when I explain.

I am a farmer and trader residing at this place (Kootenay, southern boundary of British Columbia) and have been in the habit of furnishing forage, &c., to the Deputy Collector of Customs, H. E. Seelye, for the Government horse, which up to the present has been punctually paid. This year, however, at the usual time he gave me his order for hay and grain and I furnished it as usual, at the price that we agreed upon, and that I had been in the habit of getting. I furnished him with my account, including ferriage and horse shoeing due me. The account, certified to by Mr. Seelye, was forwarded to Mr. Hamley, the Chief Collector at Victoria, for payment and his approval. He has refused to pay me the account and gives as his reason that the charges for horse keeping are so high that he refers the matter to you at Ottawa.

In the first place I never invited the officer to buy from me and what I did sell him I did so at prices about one-half less than they can be bought for at this place, as you will learn by reference to the prices paid by the Local Government officers.

Farming and living at the foot of the Rocky Mountains is costly and expensive, and I can ill afford to wait for my money until Mr. Hamley and Mr. Seelye end their personal difficulty. I have just paid for duty to the Government for this year over \$500, and yet the Government get my goods and will not pay me. What I want is my money. With all due respect I would ask that you enquire into the matter and order the payment of my account.

For my own personal standing, &c., I beg leave to refer you to the member from our district in the House of Commons, Hon. Edgar Dewdney, or to the hon. member from my native place, the Hon. McKenzie Bowell, Hastings, Ont.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) JOHN T. GALBRAITH.

Hon. ISAAC BURPEE,
Minister of Customs, Ottawa.

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CUSTOM HOUSE,
VICTORIA, 22nd December, 1874.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th ultimo. Mr. Haynes was expected here on leave, and I waited, before replying, till he came, as no one could know better what the cost of keeping a horse at Kootenay should be. I enclose his statement. I have spoken besides to others who happened to be here from Kootenay, and I am satisfied of the correctness of the statement made by Mr. Haynes, and of that made by W. Wardle, the expressman, which I forwarded in a former letter.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) WYMOND HAMLEY.

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs,
Ottawa.

SEELYE.

The usual charges made by "ranchmen" in Kootenay District, during my residence there, was \$1.50 a month and \$1 for each delivery. I have been in charge of the Kootenay District as Magistrate and Customs Officer, from time to time, for several years. I have seen the charges sent by Mr. Seelye for keep of horse, and consider them entirely unreasonable. As far as I know, a horse can always be hired, when required for service, at from \$1 to \$2 a day.

(Signed) J. C. HAYNES.

VICTORIA, 22nd December, 1874.

CUSTOM HOUSE,
VICTORIA, 2nd February, 1875.

SIR,—In November, 1872, Mr. Seelye sent in a voucher charging \$80 for firewood, which was paid. He left Kootenay immediately after, and did not return till May. In the autumn of 1873 he sent in another voucher charging \$90 for firewood, which was disallowed, as the whole stick already paid for ought to have been at the station. He sends now another charge for \$90, for 1874, which I enclose.

In forwarding my contingent account, I am called upon to declare, before a magistrate, that the payments have been made wholly for the public service. In such a case as this it would be impossible for me to make that declaration, as the firewood is wanted, and, no doubt, used entirely, for his family. No goods are passing in the winter, and no duty is collected. Under these circumstances, and to keep the expenditure within moderate bounds, which Mr. Seelye can scarcely be trusted to do, it would seem to be desirable that a sum should be named as an authorized yearly expense for fuel at the station. I should think half the present charge would be quite sufficient. At any rate, if the suggestion is approved, I should be glad if you will inform me what sum he may be allowed to charge in each year, which I shall then be able to forward in my contingent account.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) W. HAMLEY.

J. JOHNSON, Esq., Ottawa.

RAITH.

GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

Claybourne Duke, Cr. for the undermentioned, on account of Requisition No. 00.

Date.	Items in Detail.	Rate of each Article.	Total.
1874.		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
November 10	15 cords wood	6 00	90 00

Certified correct,

(Signed) H. E. SEELYE.

Place where paid, Kootenay.

Date of payment, Nov. 10, 1874.

Received from W. Hamley, the above sum of ninety dollars.

Signature of witness, if recipient cannot sign his name,

(Signed) L. D. SEELYE.

(Signed) CLAYBOURNE ^{His} X DUKE,
Mark.

VICTORIA, 12th July, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honour of returning herewith files Nos. 3351 for 1874 and 465 and 2,264 for 1875 referred to in your letter of 5th November, 1875, with instructions to ascertain the justice of the late Mr. Sub-Collector Seelye's claims for contingent expenses.

I have the honour to report in respect to claims for \$180 for firewood, that I find the price charged (\$6 per cord) to be the regular price of the country. That the quantity charged for, fifteen cords per annum, is the proportion of Mr. Seelye's total consumption of fuel that he thought would be an equitable charge against the Department.

The winter at Kootenay is extremely cold and long—mercury remaining congealed for days at a time. There is frost every month of the year, and at the time of my visit (June 1st), at every house in the neighbourhood as well as at the Customs House, fires had to be kept up for comfort. On the 25th May, I rode for miles through quite deep snow on the Kootenay trail. The only firewood that can be procured is pine, which burns away very rapidly. The Custom House in which also the late Mr. Seelye had his residence is a wooden building, roughly constructed, and no doubt difficult to keep warm, and I can quite believe the statement made to me by Mrs. Seelye, that the total annual consumption of fuel had exceeded thirty-five cords. I think if a fire had been kept up in the office during the season of cold weather there would have been consumed more than fifteen cords of wood per annum. I enquired of the Local Government agent at Kootenay (Mr. L. Booth), what his expenses had

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been for fuel for his office, and he stated that his account had been from \$140 to \$160 per annum, and that they had been allowed and paid. I believe that the fifteen cords of wood charged for in November, 1872, referred to in Collector Hamley's letter of 2nd February, 1875, might easily have been consumed (as Mrs. Seelye states they were) in the autumn of 1872, prior to Mr. Seelye's departure and in the spring of the following year, and that the charge made in 1873 and disallowed by Mr. Hamley was a just one.

I beg, therefore, very respectfully to recommend the payment of the charges of \$90 in 1873 and \$90 in 1874 for fuel.

In respect to the charges for fodder, for ranching, &c., a horse belonging to the Department, I have the honour to report that I find that in September, 1873, Mr. Sub-Collector Seelye forwarded to Collector Hamley an account for one and a half tons of hay at \$50 per ton, one and a half tons sheaf oats at \$100 per ton, and three months ranching at \$3 per month, which account was allowed and paid without any intimation being given that this expenditure was considered excessive, or instructions to curtail it. The consequence was that Mr. Seelye continued this most costly method of keeping the horse.

I find that the prices charged for fodder are the usual ones of the country, and that the quantities mentioned were actually delivered, but that finding their account objected to Messrs. Galbraith & Bros. took back two tons of hay, reducing their account, upon voucher No. 2, dated July 26, 1874, to \$117.

In respect to objections taken in Mr. Hamley's letter to charge for ranching, I found that \$3.00 per month included the usual charge of \$1.00 for each delivery referred to in the statement of Mr. J. S. Haynes and the expressman, to whose experience reference is made.

Supposing Mr. Seelye to have required the horse not more than twice a month at the rates mentioned by Mr. Haynes, the charge would have exceeded \$3 per month. I do not think the sum charged in excess of the rates of the country, and on being permitted to examine the books at the Local Government agency at Kootenay, I found several entries in Mr. Haynes' handwriting for ranching during the time he was there in charge at the rate of \$2.50 per month for horse, exclusive of delivery, instead of \$1.50 as stated. I have the honor to report that in my opinion such a large expenditure for horse keep should have been stopped at the beginning, and that it is unnecessary, and that I have instructed Mr. Firnie it must be discontinued, but inasmuch as Messrs. Galbraith & Bro. have furnished the fodder, &c. charged for, I beg respectfully to recommend that they be paid. Messrs. Galbraith & Bro. handed me an account (now enclosed) for ranching the horse by instructions of Mr. Seelye, from July 1st, 1874, to June 1st, 1876, (23 months) and for ferriage for year 1875, amounting in all to \$77.

I believe the account to be just, and would respectfully recommend that it should be paid.

I have instructed Mr. Firnie to sell the horse, and account for proceeds to Mr. Collector Hamley, to prevent further expenses. It is, however, necessary that the officer at Kootenay should have the use of a horse, and I would beg to recommend for this end and for fuel, that the following fixed allowance be made to Mr. Firnie, which will ensure economy :—

For horse hire.....\$75 per annum.
For fuel and light..... 90 "

Messrs. Galbraith & Bro. desire that the amount of their claim may be placed to their credit in the Bank of British Columbia, as per memorandum attached to their account. The charge of \$20, for tending horse two months, if allowable at all, is reasonable for Kootenay District.

I have the honour of enclosing claims handed to me by Mrs. Seelye numbered 6, 7 and 8, for further expenditures of the late Mr. Seelye.

Claim No. 6 is for a stove and lamp, and for construction of a woodshed. The voucher for the stove and lamp was forwarded to Mr. Hamley, and in lieu of a

voucher from William Coad for payment for building woodshed, a certificate from J. Galbraith, J.P., is furnished. A stove, or some means of heating the office, was a necessity. The objection in this instance is rather to the kind of stove bought, namely, a cooking stove. The office communicates with the one room of the house used as a sitting and dining and general room, and Mrs. Seelye explained that it was kept warm from fire in this room; that Mrs. Seelye supposed that if the purchase of a stove was warranted, and so long as the office was comfortably heated, the Department would not mind in view of their isolated position what description of stove was bought.

The stove remains in the building, and if the item is disallowed, Mr. Fernie will have to be furnished with a stove, which he will otherwise not require. I would respectfully recommend that the items of lamp and material for, and construction of woodshed be allowed. The woodshed was an absolute necessity, and the charge though high, is only in proportion to the rates of the district.

In respect to the items of claims Nos. 7 & 8 Mrs. Seelye showed me a private letter from the Hon. Mr. Tilley, dated Nov. 6, 1873, in which it is stated that he has advised the Hon. the then Minister of Customs to comply with Mr. Seelye's request "re" office furniture, papering house, &c., and that he (the Minister of Customs) has made the order accordingly. It was on the strength of this assurance that this expenditure was incurred. The 500 feet of lumber charged for in claim seven was used in making furniture and otherwise about the house, Mr. Seelye making the various articles himself.

The house at Kootenay possesses a minimum of comfort in every respect. There did not seem to me to have been any extravagant expenditure upon it, and with less it would have been untenable.

I found that work charged for had been actually done, and I would respectfully recommend that the claims be allowed.

I would further recommend that Mr. Fernie be authorised to make some repairs to roof and to floor of main room, which, from personal observation, I can certify to be necessary, limiting him to an expenditure not to exceed \$100. If not attended to now, at a later date a larger expenditure will be necessary.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) C. T. DUPONT,
Acting Inspector of Customs.

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs,
Ottawa.

C. T. DUPONT, Esq.,
Inspector of Customs, &c.,

Will please collect and place to our credit in Bank of British Columbia the sum of one hundred and ninety-four dollars (\$194.00) being amount of our claim against Customs Department at Kootenay, B. C. and oblige.

(Signed) JOHN T. GALBRAITH & BRO.
per Clk. T. G.

Claim herewith.....	\$ 77.00
do as per voucher dated 26th July, 1874.....	117.00
	\$194.00

THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,
KOOTENAY,

To JOHN T. GALBRAITH & BRO., Dr.

1876.

Twenty-three months ranching Government horse, from the
1st July, 1874, to 1st June, 1876, at \$3.00 per month.. \$69 00
Ferriage, &c., for 1875..... 8 00
\$77 00

KOOTENAY, June 1st, 1876.

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAIRIE,
KOOTENAY, May 31st, 1876.

I am personally aware and hereby certify that the sum of sixty dollars was paid by the late H. E. Seelye, Collector of Customs at the port, to Wm. Coad for labour and material used in constructing a wood-shed for Custom House.

(Signed) JOHN J. GALBRAITH, J. P.,
Kootenay District.

GOVERNMENT OF DOMINION OF CANADA.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.—Cr.

Date.	Items in Detail.	Rate of each Article.	—
1873.		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
May	Stove for Custom House	40 00	
	Packing do	37 84	
	Lamp	7 00	
October	Paid Wm. Coad, for building woodshed for Custom House..	60 00	144 84
	Mr. Coad not being in the country, his voucher cannot be obtained, but Mr. J. T. Galbraith's certificate is attached hereto.		
	Vouchers for stove and lamp were forwarded to Mr. Hamley in May 1873.		
	Total		144 84

Certified correct.

(Signed) L. D. SEELYE,

Place where paid, Kootenay, B.C.
Date of payment, May and October, 1873,

GOVERNMENT OF DOMINION OF CANADA.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.—Cr.

Date.	Items in Detail.	Rate of each Article.	—
1873.		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
June ..	To sawing 500 feet of lumber.....	0 12½	62 50
	Total		62 50

Certified correct.

(Signed) H. E. SEELYE.

Place where paid, Custom House, Kootenay, B.C.

Date of payment, 2nd July, 1873.

Received from H. E. Seelye the sum of sixty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$62.50).

(Signed) WILLIAM GOODRIDGE.

GOVERNMENT OF DOMINION OF CANADA.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.—Cr.

Date.	Items in Detail.	Rate of each Article.	—
1873.		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
July	20 rolls wall paper	0 25	5 00
	5 do	0 50	2 50
	1 do	1 25	1 25
	49½ yards House lining	0 12½	6 19
	1½ dozen papers of tacks		0 75
	80 lbs. freight	0 11	8 80
	Total		24 49

Certified correct.

(Signed) H. E. SEELYE.

Place where paid, Custom House, Kootenay, B.C.

Date of payment, 20th August, 1873.

Received from H. E. Seelye the sum of twenty-four dollars and forty-nine cents (\$24.49).

(Signed) FRANK McMAHON.

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VICTORIA, B. C., 9th Dec., 1876.

SIR,—In reference to a claim of one hundred and ninety-four dollars which we have against the Customs' Department for various supplies to the Custom House at Kootenay, British Columbia, when under the charge of Mr. H. E. Seelye. We beg very respectfully to submit that our claim having been enquired into on behalf of the Department (in consequence of its previous inadmission on the part of the Collector of Customs at Victoria) and having, as we understand, been fully approved by Mr. Dupont upon his inspection may now be ordered for payment in due course. We trust that the circumstance of our having already suffered nearly three years' delay in obtaining a settlement of this matter may be regarded as sufficient excuse for our communicating direct with the Department, and that an early remittance of the amount may be made to us through the Bank of British Columbia at Victoria to whom we had given an order for its receipt on our behalf.

The Collector of Customs here to whom we appealed on this subject, advises us that he has received no advice thus far as to the matter.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servants,

(Signed) GALBRAITH & BRO.

The Hon. the Chief
Commissioner of Customs, &c., &c.,
Ottawa.

The undersigned is unable to recommend payment of this account, as it appears exorbitant, and is obliged to state that he has reason to fear that Mr. Seelye is in a state which must disqualify him for the performance of his duty. His letters are not written by himself, and his signature is like that of a man afflicted with palsy or paralysis.

The undersigned respectfully suggests that a special inspection by some reliable person not now belonging to British Columbia, should be made of all the Customs stations in that Province.

Humbly submitted.

(Signed) J. JOHNSON.

To the Minister of Customs.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,
OTTAWA, 27th December, 1876.

SIR,—Adverting to the claim of Messrs. John T. Galbraith & Bro. for various articles supplied to the late Mr. Seelye for the use of the Custom House at Kootenay, I have to authorize your paying over to the parties through the Bank of British Columbia, their authorized agent, the sum of \$194.00 in full of their claim, taking a receipt therefor from the Bank accordingly, and charge the amount in your contingent account.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. JOHNSON

The Hon. W. HAMLEY,
Collector of Customs,
Victoria, B. C.

KOOTENAY, B. C., 24th July, 1875.

DEAR MR. JOHNSON.—I am very much out of health and have written Mr. Hamley this mail requesting leave of absence for the winter months. I find it impossible to be successfully treated by my physician, Dr. Bowell, of Victoria, at such a distance, the mail only coming once in two months. There is no doctor in Kootenay. I can return to my station in the spring before any pack train can arrive, or if I am not able to return, can let you know in time to send some one.

Mr. Gillmor wrote me that you would try to send me an assistant if my health does not improve, and allow me to retain my position and salary. Should the necessity arrive, I should be most grateful for such consideration, as well as needful of it, for I have no other means of subsistence, and, as you know, have no son to provide for me.

When I came here I placed my adopted daughter at school, but at the end of a year and a half found that I could not afford to keep her there. On informing the faculty they at once offered her the benefit of a free schoolship which she is now enjoying, and expects to graduate in a year from the present.

I find the expense of living here very great, and my being kept out of my wood voucher, and Mr. Galbraith's vouchers for hay, oats, ranching, horse shoeing and ferringe, oblige me to hire money to meet my obligations, which I find very hard as well as unjust, and I must earnestly beg to you to use your influence to have me paid what is due me from the Department.

Mr. Hamley can have but one object in view in referring such ordinary matters to Ottawa, and that is to embarrass me by keeping me out of my pay as long as possible, he never loses an opportunity of persecuting me.

You are aware that Mr. Tilley and Mr. Tupper both intended that I should be allowed \$100 for lining, papering and furnishing the Custom House, beside other expenses, such as stove, light, etc., is there no way for me to obtain it?

This will be mailed at Spokane, W. I., with the hope that it may reach you in time to instruct Mr. Hamley by the 1st of September to allow me leave of absence for the winter. Will you please telegraph to him. I need a little time to make the needful arrangement, and the November mail comes in too late.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed)

H. E. SEELYE.

JAS. JOHNSON, Esq.,

Commission of Customs,
Ottawa.

P.S.—Mr. Booth, Recording Clerk here, tells me that he is allowed from \$140 to \$160 per year for wood. I paid \$112.50 for wood last fall (it is cheaper here than Mr. Booth gets it), and I have only received \$80 from the Department for wood since I came here in August 1872, and nothing for light.

(Signed)

H. E. S.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,

OTTAWA, 20th August, 1875.

Sir,—I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th ultimo, applying for leave of absence on account of ill health, which will receive due consideration.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

J. JOHNSON,

Commissioner of Customs.

H. E. SEELYE, Esq.,

Kootenay, B. C., Canada.

CUSTOM HOUSE,

KOOTENAY, 17th July, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, stating that my request for leave of absence would be considered.

I wish to call your attention to Mr. Galbraith's voucher, that was forwarded to your Department from Victoria some time ago, and has not since been heard from.

Owing to my illness, and the probability of my leaving Kootenay, for a time at least, I am anxious to have my affairs settled, and would feel much obliged if you would let me know what action, if any, has been taken.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. SEELYE.

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,

Commissioner of Customs, Ottawa.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, VICTORIA, 14th July, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honour of returning to you enclosed file 255, 1876, being a renewal of the claim of the officer at Osoyoos Lake, for repairs of house occupied by him, upon which in your letter of February 1st, 1876, you instruct me to report 1st,—As to the necessity of the case, I have the honour of reporting that prior to the expenditure—repayment of which is now asked—there was a building at Osoyoos, not much better than a shanty, scarcely sufficing in accommodation for a single man, which, until Mr. Haynes' recent marriage, was his and his predecessor's position.

The site of a Custom House at Osoyoos and the neighbourhood for miles around, is so worthless for agricultural or other purposes, that no one could have any object in settling there, and I think it fairly devolves upon the Department to bear the expense of constructing a residence for the officer. The building is still quite a small one and of the plainest description, unpainted outside and inside; but it is reasonably comfortable, and much more so than the still more isolated station at Kootenay, about which I have reported in another letter. Mr. Haynes holds certain offices under the Local Government, and is also the joint proprietor of one of the largest stock ranches in the upper country.

He has, therefore, other objects besides his position in the Customs to cause him to reside in that section, if not at the place, where the interests of the revenue require the Custom House to be located.

I would respectfully recommend that the sum of \$1,200 would, under all the circumstances, be a fair allowance to him. I think the principle of allowing officers to incur expenditure in advance of authority, is to be deprecated, and that Mr. Haynes should be cautioned that any payment made by him in this instance should not be allowed as a precedent in future cases.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. T. DUPONT.

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,

Commissioner of Customs, Ottawa.

**CUSTOM HOUSE, OSOYOOS LAKE,
SOUTHERN BOUNDARY, 31st December, 1875.**

SIR,—I have the honour to forward to you herewith, through E. Dewdney, Esq., M.P., vouchers in detail for repairs of this house, trusting that the absolute necessity of the outlay, the building being uninhabitable and there being no possibility of obtaining a house in this vicinity either for the transaction of the public business or the residence of myself and family, coupled with the fact of my having repeatedly applied since 1872 for sanction of the work, will be sufficient excuse for the expenditure without the usual authority.

Begging your approval and sanction of the above, with a refund of the money,

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. C. HAYNES.

The Honourable
The Minister of Customs, Ottawa.

GOVERNMENT OF DOMINION OF CANADA.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

J. McCANLEY AND J. McCONNELL, OF OSOYOOS,—Cr.

Date.	Items in Detail.	Rate of each Article.	—
1875.		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
May 25	For the following material used in repairs to the Custom House at Osoyoos Lake, S.B., British Columbia, viz. :—		
	7,333 feet of lumber	per foot 0 07	513 31
	1,000 do	do 0 05	50 00
	4 pairs of window sashes	per pair 4 00	16 00
	Freight from New Westminster, 109 lbs.	0 06	6 54
	2 door locks	1 00	2 00
	Screws, bolts, &c.		2 60
	300 lbs. of nails	0 17	51 00
	17,200 shingles	10 00	172 00
	6 days' hauling a distance of 9 miles	3 00	18 00
	40 rolls of wall paper	0 50	20 00
	1 dos. papers of tacks		2 50
	2 squares zinc	2 50	5 00
	Total		888 95

Certified correct.

(Signed) J. C. HAYNES, D.C.

Place where paid, Osoyoos, B.C.

Date of payment, 13th September, 1875.

Received from J. C. Haynes, for Government of Dominion of Canada, the above sum of Eight hundred and fifty-eight dollars and ninety-five cents,

(Signed) JOSEPH McCANLEY,
JAMES McCONNELL.

GOVERNMENT OF DOMINION OF CANADA.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

J. McCANLEY AND J. McCONNELL, of Osoyoos,—Cr.

Date.	Items in Detail.	Rate of each Article.	
1875.			\$ cts.
May 28 to Sept. 17...	For the following repairs, &c., to the Custom House at Osoyoos Lake, Southern Boundary, British Columbia:— Laying, sheeting and roofing, tonguing grooving and putting up ceilings, renewing and repairing floors, partitions, doors, &c..... Erecting verandah do addition, 20 by 30 feet Lining and papering entire building.....	Per written agreement.	
	Total		600 00

Certified correct.

(Signed) J. C. HAYNES, D.C.

Place where paid, Osoyoos, S.B.

Date of payment, 17th September, 1875.

Received from J. C. Haynes, for Government of Dominion of Canada, the above sum of Six hundred dollars.

(Signed) JOSEPH McCANLEY,
JAMES McCONNELL.

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OTTAWA, 3rd October, 1876.

SIR,—I am instructed by the Minister of Customs to acknowledge receipt of your several letters referring to your account for travelling expenses, or, in visiting Kootenay and other out-ports, and to say that he considers your expenses to have been unnecessarily large, and your mode of travelling, are such as was never contemplated, much less sanctioned by this Department.

You account for the elaborate outfit and large attendance which you deemed it necessary to procure for the journey on the ground of the unfavourable season, but your instructions were sent you long before, and you were not restricted to a season when such expenses would be necessary. The expenses of Mrs. Seelye from Kootenay to Victoria only amounted to \$275, and it is hardly likely that a lady could travel quite as cheaply as a gentleman. I regret, therefore, that I am to inform you that the Minister of Customs declines to pay the account in question.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. JOHNSON.

C. T. DUPONT, Esq.,
Inspector of Inland Revenue,
Victoria, B.C.,

D.C.

the above

LEY,
ELL.

VICTORIA, 20th October, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your communication of the 3rd instant, informing me that the Honorable the Minister of Customs declines to pay my account for expenses incurred in visiting Kootenay and other out-ports of the Customs Department, in accordance with instructions contained in your letters of November 5th, 1875, and February 1st, 1876, on the ground that he considers my expenses to have been unnecessarily heavy, and my mode of travelling, &c., such as was never contemplated, much less sanctioned, by the Department.

Before entering upon an explanation I may be permitted very respectfully to remark that I did not seek the making of this trip nor recommend its being made. I was not consulted about it or informed as to the ideas of the Department as to its probable cost, or the mode of travelling to be adopted. I had no volition in the matter; it was not part of my ordinary duty, and I was in no way responsible for its being made. It is true that in reply to your first letter of instructions, I stated, unasked, that the "most economical estimate of the cost of the journey at the proper season of the year would be \$600." I did not contemplate in this what may be called an investment in camp material for the Department, but the net outlay for which nothing would remain to the Department by the trip.

In any case I did not contract to make the trip for this sum, and, as a matter of fact, I could not and cannot make it for such a sum.

The country was an unknown one to me; it was my first experience in making such a trip, and the error I made was in thinking I could make it for so much less than had been expended by other officials, although it is possible, with my acquired experience, I could make it for less another time than its cost in this instance, which, after deducting the cost of camp material on hand and a horse, the property of the Department, on pasture in the upper country (all of which I am ready to hand over to any one authorized to receive them) is \$998, inclusive of \$225.40 paid for stage fares and freight to Kamloops, in consequence of the season of the year necessitating my proceeding *vid* that place. I cannot but feel that, under all the circumstances, the impossibility of the Department at Ottawa understanding the nature of the trip and what was necessary. My rank and length of service (15 years) in the Dominion Civil Service, my being an officer of another Department, and not having been remunerated in the slightest degree for this work for the Customs, it would have been only just to have afforded me an opportunity of explaining anything not comprehensible, rather than, after the lapse of nearly three months, and then only in reply to a second letter, summarily declining to reimburse me the unavoidable outlay I had incurred. The inconvenience of having for so long had to advance so large a sum as \$721 is to me of itself great, but added to this the direct consequence of having had to make this trip has been pecuniary loss to me, as I was compelled to hire a man at the rate of \$2.50 a day to protect certain interests about my place during my two month's absence, that, had I been at home, I could have attended to myself after office hours.

I now beg to explain in regard to those particulars to which objection is taken in your letter of the 3rd instant.

1st. As to my mode of travelling. There are but two possible ways of proceeding to Kootenay. One is *vid* the Columbia River by steamer and railway to Walla Walla, and thence with horses and a camp outfit to Kootenay.

The other way by trails through British Columbia with horses and a camp outfit.

Your instructions requiring me to visit Osoyoos, and every Customs out-port I could take *en route* to Kootenay, and make a full inspection of the business transacted at each, I had of necessity, either going or returning, to proceed over the trails through British Columbia.

In either case horses and a camp outfit had to be provided, without these it would have been simply impossible to have gone, and the question resolves itself into whether I provided an unnecessary amount of these or not.

I purchased two tents, one for myself, and one for my men. Three pairs of blankets, being one pair for each man, and one pair for myself, having in addition a buffalo robe of my own, and costing the Department nothing. I purchased canvas sheets or tarpaulins to lay on the wet ground under the blankets. Sacks and boxes in which to pack blankets and provisions, without which they could not have been fastened on the horses, or kept from getting filthy. I also purchased necessary camp cooking materials, and two axes. How this can be characterised as an "elaborate outfit," I am at a loss to understand, with less I could not have gone or been asked to make such a journey, and if its costs (\$198.31) seems large, you must ascribe it to correct cause, the costliness of everything in this Province.

In addition to this camp outfit I purchased one horse for myself to ride, at a cost of \$125, believing that on so long and fatiguing a journey I had a right to secure an easy riding horse, especially as should there be a loss upon him when sold, it would not amount to more than it would have cost for hiring. The camp outfit and the horse, as I have already said, are on hand, the property of the Customs Department.

In respect to the attendants I took with me, two men,—one a white man and one an Indian, and which you characterize with my outfit as being elaborate—I beg very respectfully to say that any one acquainted with the nature of this method of travelling would admit that two men were necessary. One man alone cannot "pack" a horse. Two always have to do it conjointly, there being a regular system of lashing and packing that requires two trained men. Constant attention is also necessary at the horses during the day, and the loads have to be frequently re-adjusted, and at night, in addition to making camp, procuring firewood, and cooking, there is a great deal of labour in looking after and attending to the horses. As well as the men I had to, and did, work in camp—(all three of us, in addition to long days of dangerous and hard riding, in wet clothes, all day from the necessity of swimming and fording swollen rivers), having abundance of occupation. But I am not a "packer" and I did not know how to pack a horse, neither did I know the route, or was it possible for me to go without a guide, in which capacity I had one of the men, he assisting in every other way that he could.

In your letter of the 3rd instant, you say I account for the elaborate outfit and attendance which I deemed it necessary to procure on the ground of the unfavourableness of the season; but that my instructions were sent me long before, and that I was not restricted to a season when such expenses would be necessary.

I beg again, Sir, to assure you that neither my outfit or attendance was elaborate, and no matter at what season of the year the trip had been made, such an outfit and attendance would have been indispensable. If you will be good enough to refer to my letter with my account you will perceive that what I accounted for on the ground of the season of the year was the expenses to Kamloops. F. J. Barnard & Co's bill \$225.40 and steamer and hotel fares, amounting to about \$100, additional.

I also stated that the freshets and floods I had to encounter had increased the expenses of the trip, a statement that no one conversant with the parts will doubt, the high water of this spring having been greater than was ever before known, so unforeseen as to be ruinous to thousands, and which I never contemplated having to contend with, or I would not have felt bound to encounter such danger and difficulty by starting when I did.

The inference to be drawn from your statement that I had received my instructions "long before" would be that I might have made the trip sooner. My letter of December 4th, 1875, so fully explains how impossible it would have been to have done this that I must most respectfully protest against this imputation. It could not have been expected that I should have made a trip of this character in winter, involving from 1,000 to 1,200 miles snow-shoeing, sleeping at night in the snow, and in no other way could I have done it, since your first communication, dated 5th November, 1875, duly reached me here on the 22nd of that month when winter had set in. Had I done so the expenses would have been much greater. As it was I started so early that I had to lengthen my journey because of the snow on the Hope trail and I had to ride in several places through quite deep snow.

On the other hand had I delayed starting until after the season of high water, or until the Hope trail was passable for horses I could not have left Victoria until after the 1st July, because my duties in the Inland Revenue Department, connected with the renewal of licenses, required me to be here on the 1st July, which I could not have been had I not started when I did, the trip taking two months, and because, although the Hope mountain trail is favourable by the beginning of June, the unusual high water of this year did not subside until the beginning of July. In your first letter you directed me to proceed "as soon as possible," and as part of the duty assigned to me was to relieve Mr. Seelye, a dying man, and provide for the protection of the revenue, the season of the year being at hand when trade between Kootenay and the United States would recommence, I did not feel that I should be complying with your wishes or acting in the interest of the service by delaying my departure any longer than I did, but I could not have started at an earlier date.

You refer to Mrs. Seelye's expenses from Kootenay to Victoria as having been only \$275 with the remark "that it is hardly likely a lady could travel quite as cheaply as a gentleman."

In this instance the conclusion is incorrect. Mrs. Seelye made the expensive portion of the journey, requiring horses and necessitating camping outfit and attendance, with her friends and neighbours, Mr. Galbraith and his sister-in-law, who were coming out from Kootenay with a freight pack train on their own business. She waited for them instead of having to hire them especially to make the trip with her, and had probably little to pay them and little, if any, camp outfit to provide. From Walla Walla to Victoria there is steam communication, and the expenses were not heavy, mine, as will be seen by my account, were \$100.

The usual time taken to reach Victoria from Walla Walla is from four to five days, and the trip could have been made in this time when Mrs. Seelye travelled. No one could have been more anxious to end the trip or get home than I was, yet it took me twelve days from Walla Walla to Victoria, because of interruptions of communications.

The railways were under water, passengers were ferried about the streets of towns to second stories of hotels, and one of the largest at Walla Walla floated down the Columbia River two nights after I slept in it. I cannot conceive the Department would think it just that an officer, on a mission by its instructions, should bear the expenses of such unforeseen difficulties.

Had there been such things as freight pack trains *via* Osoyoos to Kootenay (which as a matter of fact there are not), I could not have travelled by such a means, without giving any other reasons, for the sufficient one that it would have taken me four months to accomplish the journey, and I could not have been gone so long from my other duties.

Mrs. Seelye, in journeying from Kootenay to Victoria *via* Walla Walla, had not to travel by horse train more than one-fifth the distance that I had in visiting the different out-ports, nor had she any stage travelling to do, which in my case was very heavy. Her expenses cannot properly be compared with mine, but since comparison is made, I beg to contrast the cost of a trip made by Mr. Justice Gray and Mr. Indian Superintendent Bowell.

They proceeded together to Kootenay at the most convenient season of the year. They had no intermediate places to visit, nor were they obliged to stop over at New Westminster or diverge to Burrard Inlet, whereas I had to make and did make a second special visit to these places after my return to Victoria, my duties in the Inland Revenue Department having required me to be in Victoria before completing my inspection for the Customs.

They had no stage expenses to incur, having been able to go by the Hope, and in every instance the shortest trails.

On enquiry to-day from John Graham, Esq., Dominion Auditor, and at the Indian Office, I have ascertained that their expenses, they being gone no longer than I was, were \$3,504.82.

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standing the greater distance I had to travel, and difficulties I had to encounter, would not have been more than one-third greater than they were, or say \$1,761, as the same camp outfit, with the addition of blankets, and the same attendants that I had, would have answered for a party of three or four, although invariably necessary for one alone.

As further evidence of the character of this trip and the expenses attendant on it, I beg to enclose you a certified copy of an account paid by the Local Government to James Wardle, the expressman, for bringing from Kootenay to Victoria on his October trip (the best season of the year for making it) a writ of some papers, all of which were contained in a good sized envelope. The amount paid him was \$300.

In respect to the number of horses I took with me, there can be no complaint by the Customs Department. As far as Osoyoos I had seven horses, one for myself and one for each of my men to ride, and four to pack. Six of them, being, from previous hard work, unfit for the railway service, were lent to me by John Robson, Esq., Paymaster and Purveyor of the Southern Pacific Railway Survey, and did not cost the Customs Department one cent for hire or feed, as in this method of travelling the horses have to find their own feed. The seventh horse was the one I purchased. I had to send back the Canadian Pacific Railway Survey horses from Osoyoos, and from that point I continued my journey with four horses and one man, having sent one of my men (Seymour) back to Kamloops with the Canada Pacific Railway Survey horses, and being assisted the remainder of my journey by Wardle, the expressman, and his men.

In every way I endeavoured to keep down expenses. I used my own saddle and bridle and borrowed others as all as "Aparajoes" for the pack horses. I have charged \$5 per day for hotel expenses (a sum barely insufficient to cover them) whereas the rate allowed in this Province is \$3 per day. It is quite apparent the nature of the trip I had to make was not and is not understood when I am told my "mode of travelling or, was such as was never contemplated much less sanctioned by the Department."

I can only repeat that I had no means of knowing what were the ideas of the Department, on the subject, or I would not have started on the trip without receiving the sanction to the mode of travelling I adopted, there being no other mode by which I could properly have been asked to make it.

I trust these explanations will be satisfactory, and that not only will I be re-imbursed the outlay I have incurred, but also be remunerated for the service rendered.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. T. DUPONT.

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,

Commissioner of Customs, Ottawa.

GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

DEPARTMENT.

James Wardle, Kootenay Express Company for the undermentioned, on account of Requisition No.

Services in bringing down writ and papers from Kootenay to
Victoria, in October, 1875..... \$300.

Certified correct.

CHARLES GOOD.

Place where paid,

Date of payment, 11th September, 1876.

Received from the Treasury the above sum of three hundred dollars.

Signature of witness if recipient cannot sign his name.

(Signed) JAMES WARDLE.

True copy certified.

W. C. BERKLEY,

Provincial Auditor.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR OF INLAND REVENUE,
VICTORIA, B.C., 18th September, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honour of enclosing a copy of my account for expenses incurred on tour of inspection on the mainland of this province for the Customs Department, in conformity with instructions contained in your communications No. 1 of 5th November, 1875, and No. 1 of 1st February, 1876. I have also the honour of enclosing a copy of my letter explanatory of the said account.

The originals of this account and letter were mailed at this place on the 18th February, and my reports upon the various matters into which I was directed to enquire some days previously. Two months having elapsed without acknowledgment of receipt of any of them, I am apprehensive lest they may have miscarried.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs, Ottawa.

(Signed)

C. T. DUPONT,
Inspector of Inland Revenue.

VICTORIA, 18th July, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honour of enclosing herein contingent account with vouchers for expenses incurred on tour of inspection for Customs Department on the mainland of this province. My route on this occasion did not take me to any places at which business subject to excise was carried on, so that I cannot apportion any part of any expenses to the Inland Revenue Department. Had I been authorized to do so I could have inspected and been otherwise of service to the Post Office Department, and in view of the great expense of travelling in this Province I would very respectfully suggest the advisability of the appointment of one General Inspector who could, when occasion required, make at one and the same expense an examination of the business of the several Departments. In no one of them is there sufficient work to occupy fully the time of an Inspecting Officer, and on the other hand I feel warranted in saying, that in no province of the Dominion is there as much need of at least an annual inspection.

My expenses on this trip have exceeded the estimate I sent you for the following reasons:—

The season of the year at which I started necessitated my proceeding by stage to Kamloops, from which place to start with horses and camp out. I could not cross the Hope Mountain as the snow for more than a month later lay too deep on the trail, and to visit Osoyoos Lake there was no other way of proceeding. This involved the expenditure for stage fare, freight, &c., (\$225.40) charged in bill of F. J. Barnard & Co. I was obliged to take my camp outfit from Victoria, and also my guide, C. T. Seymour, temporarily transferred from the C.P.R.S. No allowance whatever being made for baggage, the total weight of freight charged for, 53 lbs., which included saddles, kitchen, tents, tarpaulins, blankets, certain provisions, &c., will show that I exercised due economy in this respect. I was also obliged to purchase an outfit of camp material, which item constitutes the heaviest part of Oppenheimer Bros' account of \$163.31, and the whole of E. Molum's bill of \$35, and I purchased one horse for my own riding at a cost of \$125. By using my own saddle and borrowing others, as well as the apparajoes for the pack horses, I saved the Department this additional expense. The outfit is on hand, in good order, ready for any future occasion, and the horse being very much run down I thought it advisable to turn out on pasture in the upper country (he is in charge of Mr. Ingraham, of Grand Prairie), to recover before endeavouring to sell him. With these items deducted, which I did not take into calculation (amounting in all to \$548.71), and which, by making the trip at the proper season of the year, need not occur again, the trip would not much have exceeded the amount I named.

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Two men are a necessity as assistants on such a trip, one man alone being unable to "pack" a horse, and the labour of attending to seven horses. The number required for such a trip (three for saddle and four for packing) to keep them from straying, hunting them in the morning, attention to "apparajoes" to save their backs, making camp and cooking, besides riding from thirty-five to fifty miles per day, fully occupied myself and men from 3:30 a.m., the hour at which my camp was struck in the morning, until 6 p.m., and sometimes as late as 8 p.m., my usual hour for camping again.

The exceptional high water of this season has contributed to increase the expense of my trip—by delays—rivers having had to be swam and rafted, and miles of country (almost swimming depth for horses) having had to be forded—horses becoming so exhausted that to get on I was obliged to hire frequent changes. I enter into these lengthy explanations that you may perceive that the expenditure on this trip has been exceptional. By choosing the proper season of the year the same services could be performed for about the sum of \$600 travelling expenses.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

C. T. DUPONT,
Acting Inspector of Customs.

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs,
Ottawa.

(Voucher No. 1.)

KAMLOOPS, April 25th, 1876.

\$125.00—

Received from C. T. Dupont, Esq., the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars for one bay saddle horse.

(Signed)

MARA & WILSON.

(Voucher No. 2.)

VICTORIA, B.C., 24th April, 1876.

C. T. DUPONT, Esq., Dr.,
To EDWARD MOLUM.

One tent, canvas sheet, &c..... \$35 00

Received,

(Signed)

EDWARD MOLUM.

(Voucher No. 3.)

VICTORIA, B.C., 25th April, 1878.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, per C. T. DUPONT,

To OPPENHEIMER BROS.

	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
1 wash pan	1	00		
1 basting spoon	0	50		
1 meat fork	0	75		
3 oval pans, at \$5.00	1	87		
3 table spoons, at \$2.00	0	75		
1 dozen Leibig Extract	7	88		
1 do assorted soaps and meats	6	75		
1 do devilled hair, at \$5.75	2	88		
1 box curry powder	0	50		
1 bottle mustard	0	50		
1 do pepper	0	50		
1 dozen pickles, at \$7.00	3	50		
2 do Lgr. L. & P. sauce, at \$8.00	2	00		
2 packages matches	0	25		
2 cans coffee	2	40		
4 do tobacco (for Indians)	4	00		
2 butcher knives	1	00		
1 bar cast soap	0	62		
4 lbs. tea, at 80c	2	40		
1 lb. flour, sack	0	13		
1 dozen yeast powder	2	63		
2 bottles lime juice	1	00		
1 pair gray blankets	10	50		
1 do scarlet	10	00		
2 fay pairs	3	50		
3 kettles	4	50		
1 coffee pot, \$1.50; one axe, \$2.25; one half axe, \$1.75	5	50		
1 tin cloves, 37c; one tin allspice, 38c; half dozen tin cups, 75c	1	50		
1 dozen marmalade, at \$6.50	3	25		
1 do knives and forks, at \$4.00	2	00		
1 do table spoons, at \$1.50	0	75		
1 do deep tin plates, at \$3.50	1	75		
1 tin pan, pressed	0	75		
1 Russian throw pan	1	50		
1 axe handle	0	50		
10 lbs. apples (dried), at 14c	1	40		
10 lbs. peaches do at 16c	1	00		
6 tins condensed coffee	6	00		
1 dozen tins oysters	3	50		
36 lbs. rice	2	50		
1 salt	0	50		
1 duck cove, 11ft. 2in.	15	00		
1 do 10ft. 3in.	13	00		
7 canvass sacks	5	00		
1 sack for two baskets	3	00		
2 canvass jean bags, at \$5.00 each	10	00		
2 cases, wooden do	10	00		
2 padlocks	1	00		
Dray & Whiby	1	00		
			163	31

Received payment.

(Signed)

OPPENHEIMER BROS.

30 lbs bear
dozen br
3 lbs cand
5 lbs crush
5 lbs salt
1 whiak br
3 flour sack
1 brush
1 curry com
1 horse bel
1 strap for

Paid India

May

Mr.

164 lbs bac
14 lbs No.

To C

* 1 tent ...
5 lbs suga

* Having

KAMLOOPS, B.C.,

187 •

C. T. DUPONT, Esq.

Bought of MARA & WILSON.

cts.	\$	cts.		\$	cts.
			30 lbs beans, at 8c.....		2 40
			1 dozen brandy.....		8 25
00			3 lbs candles.....		1 50
50			5 lbs crushed sugar.....		1 35
75			5 lbs salt.....		0 63
87			1 whisk broom.....		0 75
75			3 flour sacks.....		0 54
88			1 brush.....		2 50
75			1 curry comb.....		0 75
88			1 horse bell.....		1 75
50			1 strap for ditto.....		0 75
50					
50					
00					
50					
00					
			Paid Indian, packing stuff to steamer.....		21 20
					0 75
					21 95

Received payment,

By cash, \$21.95.

(Signed)

MARA & WILSON,

per R.R.

May 4th, 1876.

(Voucher No. 5.)

KAMLOOPS, 4th May, 1876

Mr. DUPONT.

Bought of THE HUDSON BAY COMPANY.

78				\$	cts.	
50						
50	16½ lbs bacon at 25c.				4	12
49	14 lbs No. 1 shot, @ 20c.				2	80
00						
00						

Paid, May 4th, 1876.

(Signed)

S. T., *pro* J. TAIT.

(Voucher No. 6.)

Osoyoos, 13th May, 1876.

TO C. T. DUPONT.

	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
* 1 tent	9 18	
5 lb sugar	1 25	10 41

Payment received.

(Signed)

THOS. KRUGER.

* Having started with only one tent, found it necessary to purchase a second small tent.—U.T.D.

R BROS.

(Voucher No. 7.)

OSOYOOS, B.C., 15th May, 1876.

To C. T. DUPONT, Esq.

14 lbs. flour.....	\$1 00
4 do sugar	1 00
2 do bacon.....	0 50
1 coffee pot.....	1 25
2 yards drilling.....	0 60
$\frac{1}{2}$ bar marine soap.....	0 65
	<u>\$5 00</u>

Received payment.

(Signed)

THEO. KRUGER.

Rece
lodgings.

\$76.00

Rece
assistant
dollars p

(Voucher No. 8.)

Mr. DUPONT,

Bought of M. OPPENHEIMER & Co.

16 lbs. ham.....	\$3 25
4 do sugar.....	1 00
11 do flour.....	0 50
4 yards sheeting...	1 00
1 do musquito bar.....	0 76
1 tin pan.....	1 00
	<u>\$7 50</u>

Received payment.

(Signed)

M. OPPENHEIMER & Co.

In prese

\$130.75

Rece
cents fo

(Voucher No. 9.)

\$4.00

PENTICTON.

Received from C. T. Dupont the sum of four dollars being amount due for sixteen pounds of bacon.

Received payment.

(Signed)

THOS. ELLIS.

\$20.00

(Voucher No. 10.)

\$25.00

KAMLOOPS, 26th May, 1876.

Received from C. T. Dupont, per C. T. Seymour, the sum of twenty-five dollars, being amount due for labour of self and horse from 7th day of May, 1876, up to 26th May, 1876.

(Signed)

his
JIM x INDIAN
mark.

Witness,

JOHN ELABBY.

Re
from F

May, 1876.

\$1 00
1 00
0 50
1 25
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0 65

\$5 00

KRUGER.

\$3 25
1 00
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ER & Co.

PENTICTON.
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S. ELLIS.

May, 1876.
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ay, 1876, up to

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INDIAN
rk.

(Voucher No. 11.)

KAMLOOPS, 26th May, 1876.

Received from C. T. Dupont, per C. Seymour, the sum of six dollars for board and lodgings.

(Signed) McINTOSH & McPHADEN.

(Voucher No. 12.)

\$76.00

Received from Mr. C. T. Dupont seventy-six dollars for services as cook and assistant on trip to Kootenay, from 3rd May to 30th June, at the rate of (\$40) forty dollars per month.

(Signed) his
SEN x SIBLE
mark.

In presence of

JAS. WARDLE.

(Voucher No. 13.)

\$130.75

Received from C. T. Dupont one hundred and thirty dollars and seventy-five cents for hire of horses.

(Signed) JAMES WARDLE.

\$20.00

(Voucher No. 14.)

WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

13th June, 1876.

Received from Mr. C. T. Dupont twenty dollars for conveying him, by waggon, from Ports Ranch to Walla Walla.

(Signed) HERMAUN TINKE.

(Voucher No. 15.)

OSOYOOS, B.C., 13th June, 1876.

C. T. DUPONT, Esq.,

To THEO. KRUGER.

	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
15 lbs. flour	1	75		
4 lbs. bacon	1	50		
1 lb. Congou tea	0	62		
1 tin yeast powder	0	50		
3 lbs. Long Island sugar	0	75		
				5 12
Total				5 12

Received payment.

(Signed)

THEODORE KRUGER.

(Voucher No. 16.)

C. T. DUPONT, Esq.,

To F. J. BARNARD & Co.

1876.		\$	cts.	\$	cts.
April 3	To paid freight or horse, Victoria to Yale	10	00		
do 28	Pass self and Seymour, Yale to Kamloops	55	40		
do 28	Freight 326 lbs., Victoria to Kamloops	65	20		
do 28	do 78 lbs., Yale to Kamloops	19	60		
do 28	do 133 lbs., do	26	60		
May 27	Package 12 lbs., Seymour to you, Victoria	2	50		
April 3	Horse feed hay and grain, 3rd April to date, 31 days, at \$1.50.	46	50		
					225 40
	Total				225 40

Paid 19th July, 1876.

(Signed)

F. J. BARNARD & Co.
pro. G. A. SARGISON.

(Voucher No. 17.)

\$100.00

VICTORIA, 12th July, 1876.

Received from C. T. Dupont one hundred dollars for services as guide and assistant on trip to Kootenay.

(Signed)

C. T. SEYMOUR.

h June, 1876.

(Voucher No. 18.)

8th July, 1876.

Mr. DUPONT,

To Steamer *Enterprise*.—Dr.

\$ cts.	\$ cts.		\$ cts.
1 75		* Two packages and one passenger.....	10 00
1 50		† One do do	7 50
0 62			
0 50		Total	17 50
0 75			
	5 12		
	5 12		

* Self and Mr. Seymour per route to Kootenay.
 † Self alone, 2nd trip to Westminster and back.

Received payment.

(Signed),

GEO. HARDISTY,

Purser.

E KRUGER.

(Voucher No. 19.)

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

C. T. DUPONT, Esq.,

To E. MALLANDAINE, Architect.

\$ cts.	\$ cts.		\$ cts.
10 00		1876.	
55 40		July 13, 14...	
65 20		* For map of British Columbia, showing in colors, the waters, trails, waggon-	
19 80		roads Custom Houses, with reference, as per instructions, &c.....	10 00
26 80			
2 50			
46 50			
	225 40		
	225 40		

* Forwarded with report.

Received payment same time.

(Signed)

EDWARD MALLANDAINE.

TARD & Co.

SON.

h July, 1876.

ces as guide and

SEYMOUR.

VICTORIA, B.C., July 14th, 1876.

THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT,

To C. T. DUPONT, Acting Inspector of Customs.

For expenses incurred in tour of inspection on mainland of British Columbia.

Date.	No. of Voucher.	Particulars.	Amount.
1876.			\$ cts.
April 25	1	Mara & Wilson, for horse for journey for self to ride.....	125 00
do 24	2	E. Molum, for tent and canvas sheet.....	35 00
do 25	3	Oppenheimer & Bros., outfit for camp and provisions.....	163 31
May 4	4	Mara & Wilson, provisions, &c.....	21 95
do 4	5	Hudson Bay Company, provisions, &c.....	6 92
do 13	6	T. Kruger, tent and sugar.....	10 41
do 15	7	do provisions.....	5 00
do 18	8	M. Oppenheimer & Co., provisions.....	7 50
do 19	9	T. Ellis, bacon.....	4 00
do 26	10	Indian, for services, self and horse, Kamloops to Osoyoos.....	25 00
do 26	11	McIntosh & McPhaden, board of C. T. Seymour.....	8 00
June 10	12	Sensible, as cook, from 3rd May to 30th June, at \$40 per month.....	76 00
do 10	13	Jas. Wardle, hire of horses used in trip.....	130 75
do 13	14	Hermann Tinke, conveyance from Ports Ranch to Walla Walla.....	20 00
do 13	15	T. Kruger, provisions.....	5 12
do 29	16	F. J. Barnard, stage fares to Kamloops.....	225 40
July 12	17	C. T. Seymour, services as guide and packer.....	100 00
do 8	18	Steamer <i>Enterprise</i> , fares to New Westminster.....	17 50
do 14	19	E. Mallandaine, map of British Columbia.....	10 00
		* Hotel expenses at New Westminster, 7 days.....	35 00
		* Meals on steamer from Victoria, New Westminster, self and Seymour.....	8 00
		* Hire of conveyance to Burrard Inlet.....	6 00
		* Expenses at Burrard Inlet.....	4 00
		* Steamer, fare to Yale, self and Seymour, including meals.....	19 00
		* Hotel expenses on road from Yale to Kamloops, self and Seymour, 5 days, at \$5 per day each.....	50 00
		* Steamer, fare, Savona's Ferry to Kamloops.....	8 00
		* Hotel expenses at Kamloops.....	10 00
		* Expenses at Dack's, from which place camped out.....	7 00
		* Provisions purchased on route not included above, and sundry minor expenses.....	47 50
		* Shoeing horses and ferriages <i>en route</i>	29 00
		* Steamer and railway fares, Walla Walla to Victoria.....	40 00
		* Hotel expenses between Walla Walla and Victoria, 12 days.....	60 00
		* Conveyance, self and baggage, to and from home at Victoria.....	3 00
		Cr.—By amount of advance.....	1,321 36
			600 00
		To balance.....	721 36

* These items paid in small sums at different times; vouchers unobtainable or omitted to be taken.
C.T.D.

I hereby solemnly and in my conscience declare that the foregoing account is just and true, and that the expenditure was made wholly for the public service.

(Signed) C. T. DUPONT.

Declared to at Victoria this 20th }
day of July, 1876, before me.
R. P. RILLET, J.P. }